

CHICAGO – With Chicagoland leading the nation in gas prices, U.S. Representatives Mark Kirk and Judy Biggert joined with environmental, business and research leaders today to announce new legislation dramatically boosting the federal government's commitment to energy independence. With the backdrop of Chicago's premier space museum, the Adler Planetarium, the legislation is modeled on NASA's \$20 billion effort to land an American on the moon. The "Apollo Energy Independence Act" establishes long-term market incentives to spur breakthroughs for the development and deployment of alternative energies, vehicles and fuel. Increases in support for alternative energy are offset by spending reductions in earmark and subsidy programs to ensure the bill does not require additional borrowing or taxes.

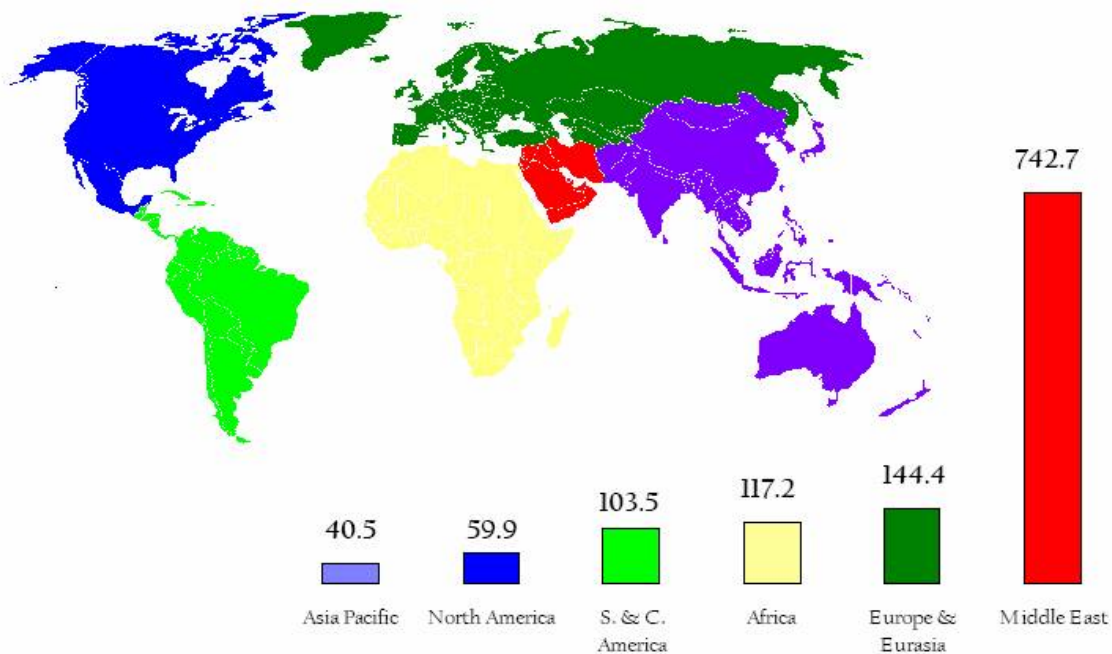
"Forty-seven years ago, President Kennedy pledged to send man to the moon," Congressman Kirk said. "We need a similar 'moon shot' program to end our dependence on foreign oil. The Apollo Act taps the greatest asset of the United States, Yankee ingenuity and free markets, to boost alternative vehicles and increase renewable energies to get off foreign oil. By cutting funding for low-priority programs, we can fund a massive effort to end our dependence on the Middle East."

"We have to acknowledge that America cannot meet today's energy needs -- much less tomorrow's -- with yesterday's energy infrastructure and technology," said U.S. Rep. Judy Biggert, a senior member of the House Science and Technology Committee. "From plug-in hybrids to hydrogen fuel cells, the next generation of alternative energy solutions is around the corner, but we must make the investments necessary to accelerate their development and deployment."

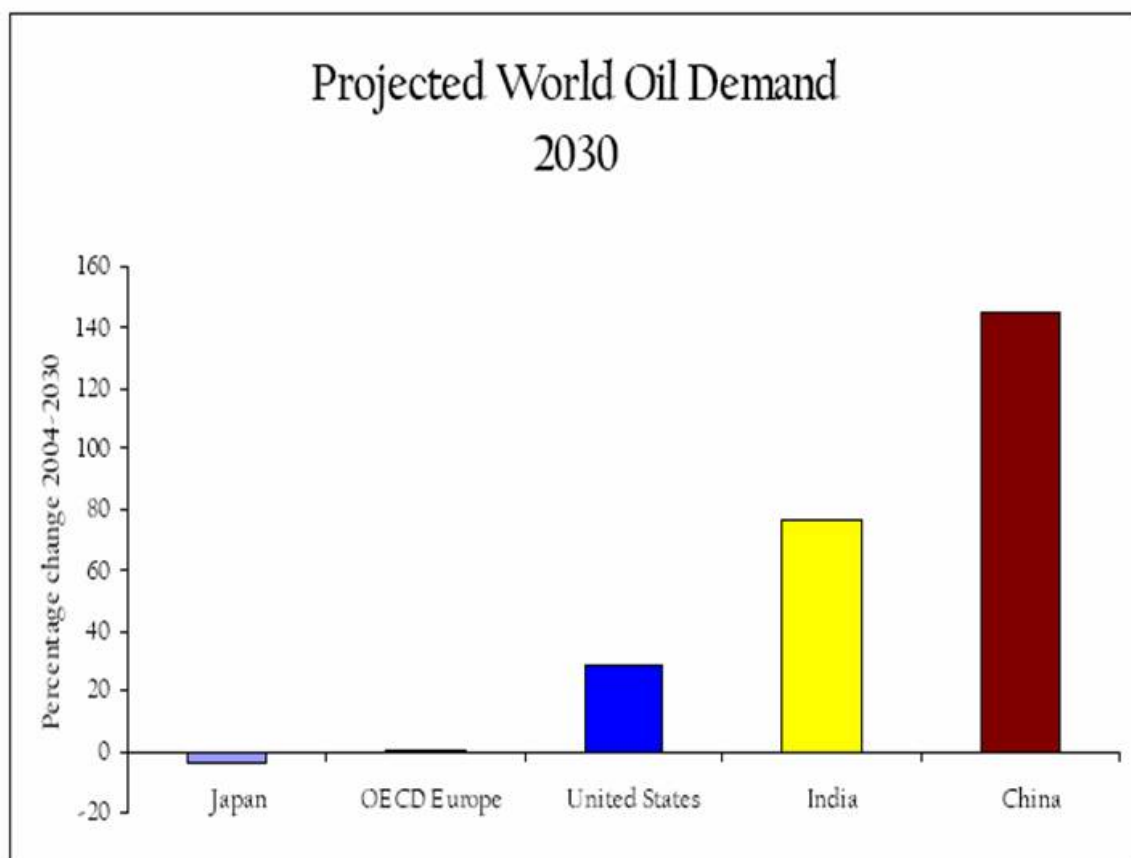
According to the Department of Energy, the Middle East holds 61 percent of the world's proven oil reserves. North America only has 5 percent.

## Proved Oil Reserves

Billion Barrels At End Of 2006



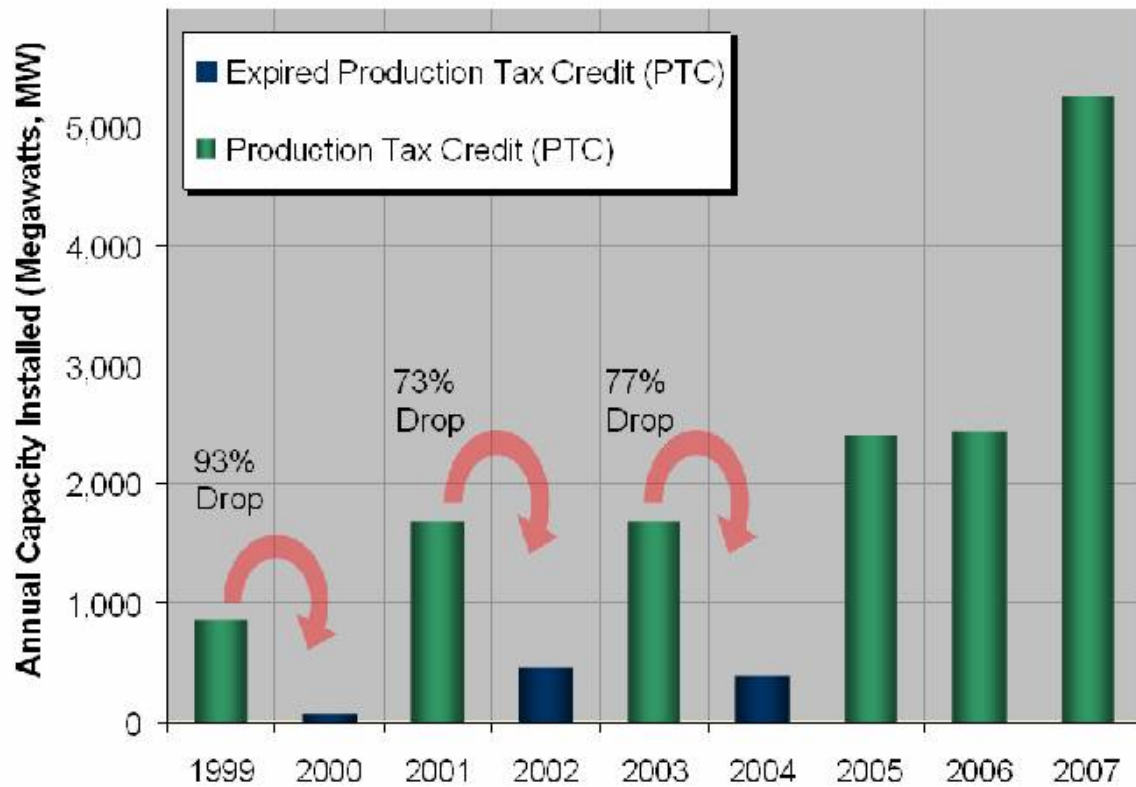
Foreign oil reserves represent the oil that is stored in the ground. The U.S. has the second largest reserves, but only 20 percent of the world's reserves. The U.S. has the second largest reserves, but only 20 percent of the world's reserves. The U.S. has the second largest reserves, but only 20 percent of the world's reserves.



Source: Energy Information Administration

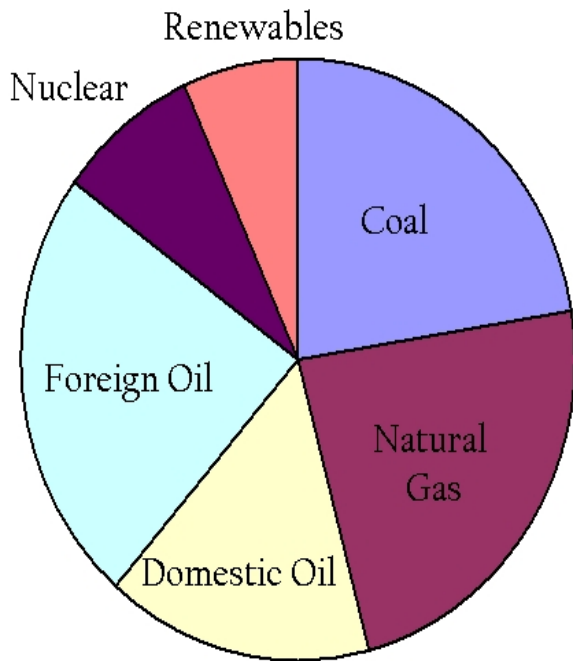
China will increase its oil demand by 100 billion barrels per year, while India will increase its oil demand by 75 billion barrels per year, and the United States will increase its oil demand by 28 billion barrels per year.

## Tax Credits and Wind Energy Development

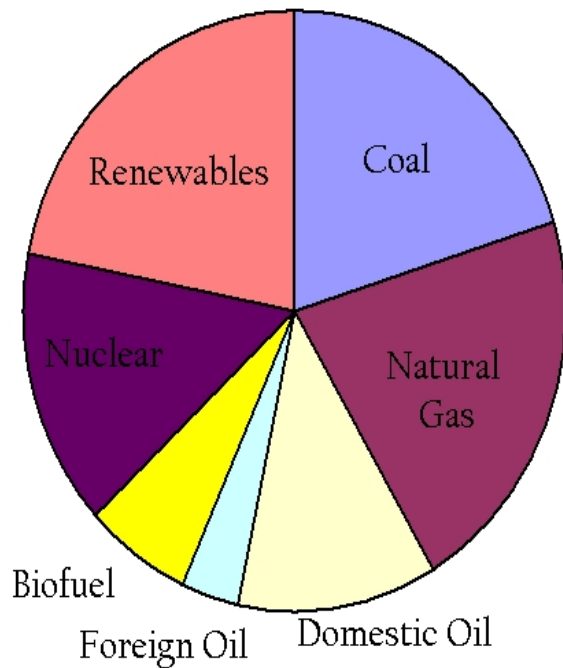


Source: U.S. Department of Energy, Wind Energy Program, "Wind Energy Program: Annual Capacity Installed (MW) by PTC Status, 1999-2007" (http://www.eere.energy.gov/wind/program/annual\_capacity\_installed.html)

# Apollo Energy Independence Act: Renewable Energy Increases By **228%** Foreign Oil Decreases By **86%**:



2007 Energy Use



Estimated 2030 Energy Use





A prototype plug-in 100-mpg hybrid at Argonne National Laboratory